

## **Collection of Frederick Polley Sketches**

L438, V426

1923-1946

2 mss. boxes, 8 vol.

Rare Books and Manuscripts Division  
Indiana State Library

Processed by: Philip N. Williams, 1999

Reprocessed by: Julie A. Reid, June 2006

Finding aid updated: Laura Eliason, 11/14/2015

---

### **Biographical Note:**

Frederick Polley was born at Union City, Indiana, on August 15, 1873, the son of Jacob and Matilda (Wiley) Polley. He was consecutively a student at Corcoran School of Art, the John Herron Art School (1903-05), the Indiana University extension (1918-22), and Purdue University (1923-35).

Professionally, Polley was the editor-publisher of the Union City (Indiana) News (1897-99), a freelance commercial artist, a draftsman with the United States Topographical Bureau (1906-09), an instructor with the Indianapolis Public Schools and head of the graphic arts department at Arsenal Technical School (1933-41). Polley was a book illustrator, a contributor to the Indianapolis Sunday Star (1924-47), and author-illustrator of a syndicated newspaper feature, "Our America". As an artist, he displayed his work at the Hoosier Salon, the Brown County Art Gallery, and other regional and national exhibit halls. Polley died on September 9, 1957.

### **Scope and Content Note:**

This collection consists of eight volumes and two manuscript boxes of material.

The volumes consist of eight scrapbooks kept by Janet Jaehne that contain newspaper clippings of the sketch-and essay feature authored by Frederick Polley, which appeared in newspapers on a weekly basis from 1939 to 1946. Frequently, these focused on historic buildings and other architectural and historic sites from Indiana, the Midwest, or the nation generally. On less frequent occasions, Polley illustrated a theme of his own selection. The scrapbooks were numbered by Janet Jaehne and her numbering system has been maintained. The scrapbooks contain a mixture of dated and undated material.

Also included are two boxes containing photocopies of the sketch and essay feature authored by Frederick Polley that appeared in the Indianapolis Star from 1923-1946. These materials are arranged chronologically by year. An additional folder of sketch

reproductions is included that have been published in a variety of formats including a sketchbook, postcards, and a travelgraph.

---

### **Box and Folder Listing:**

#### Box 1. *Sketch and Essay Feature by Frederick Polley*

Folder

1. 1923 - 24
2. 1925
3. 1926
4. 1927
5. 1928
6. 1929
7. 1930
8. 1931
9. 1932
10. 1933
11. 1934
12. 1935
13. 1936
14. 1937
15. 1938 – 40
16. 1941
17. 1942

#### Box 2. *Sketch and Essay Feature by Frederick Polley*

Folder

1. 1943
2. 1944
3. 1945
4. 1946
5. undated

#### Box 2, Folder 6. *Various Sketch Reproductions*

Christmas 1927    Color postcard of Polley sketch used as Christmas card, includes an inscription on the

back of the postcard that is illegible

1927                Travelgraph: Pictorial and Historical Journeys in Hoosierland, by Frederick Polley,

Indiana sites        Folio No. 8, contains 13 black and white reproductions of sketches of

done by Polley

Christmas 1929 Color postcard of Paradise Hills Studio made for Mr. and Mrs. Frederick Polley

of Indianapolis

Christmas 1936 Color reproduction of sketch of a covered bridge by Polley, lists Mr. and Mrs. Frederick Polley's address as Paradise Hills Studio, East 75th Street and Dandy

Trail, Route 13, Box 288, Indianapolis

Christmas 1938 Color reproduction of sketch of a mill by Polley, lists Mr. and Mrs. Frederick Polley's address as Route 13, Box 288, Indianapolis

Christmas 1940 Color reproduction of Polley sketch of covered bridge on Raccoon Creek 1836-38, lists

Mr. and Mrs. Frederick Polley's address as Route 13 box 288, Indianapolis

1941, April 26 Black and white reproduction of sketch by Polley of the view of the Ohio River from the President's house at Hanover College, used for the Hoosier Folklore Society

Program, third annual meeting on April 26, 1941

undated Brochure containing a reproduction of an etching by Polley of the Scottish Rite Cathedral in Indianapolis, also contains an explanation as to what an etching is

undated Campus Sketches: Arsenal Technical Schools Indianapolis

undated Color postcard of Polley sketch of 1835 Indiana statehouse, lists address for Mr. and

Mrs. Frederick Polley as 371 So. Emerson Avenue, Indianapolis

undated Color reproduction of sketch depicting patio of New Orleans Art League by Polley, lists

Mr. and Mrs. Frederick Polley's address as 371 So. Emerson Avenue,

Indianapolis

undated Color reproduction of sketch of wooded scene by Polley, lists Mr. and Mrs. Frederick Polley's address as Paradise Hills, Route 13, Route 288,

Indianapolis

undated Newspaper clipping of sketch of oldest covered bridge in Kentucky done by Polley

undated "The Next Morning", black and white postcard of a snowy woods

undated Reproduction of sketch of Pirate's Alley, New Orleans, lists Mr. and Mrs. Frederick

Polley's address as 371 So. Emerson Avenue, Indianapolis

#### Volumes.

V426-1 Scrapbook of reproductions of sketches by Polley of sites in both Indiana and the United States in general, 32 sketches, undated

V426-2 Scrapbook of reproductions of sketches by Polley of sites in both Indiana and the United States in general, 30 sketches, undated

V426-3	Scrapbook of reproductions of sketches by Polley of sites in both Indiana and the United States in general, 48 sketches, 1939, May 7 – 1941, June 29
V426-4	Scrapbook of reproductions of sketches by Polley of sites in both Indiana and the United States in general, 34 sketches, undated
V426-5	Scrapbook of reproductions of sketches by Polley of sites in both Indiana and the United States in general, 26 sketches, 1940, October 13 – 1943, August 22
V426-6	Scrapbook of reproductions of sketches by Polley of sites in both Indiana and the United States in general, 60 sketches, 1944, April 2 – 1945, May 20
V426-7	Scrapbook of reproductions of sketches by Polley of sites in both Indiana and the United States in general, 57 sketches, 1945, May 27 – 1946, June 2
V426-8	Scrapbook of reproductions of sketches by Polley of sites in both Indiana and the United States in general, 24 sketches

---

#### **Collection Information:**

<i>Size of Collection:</i>	2 manuscript boxes, 8 volumes
<i>Collection Dates:</i>	1923-1946
<i>Provenance:</i>	Unknown
<i>Access:</i>	This collection is open for research.
<i>Restrictions:</i>	None
<i>Reproduction Rights:</i>	Permission to reproduce, exhibit, or publish material in this collection must be obtained from the Manuscript Section, Indiana State Library. Possession of a reproduction from an Indiana State Library collection does not constitute permission for use.
<i>Language</i>	Materials are entirely in English
<i>Alternate Formats:</i>	None
<i>Related Holdings:</i>	
<i>Notes:</i>	

---